

JESUS GALVEZ INSTALLED AS
POSTMASTER**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Jesus Galvez who will be honorably installed as Postmaster of Miami.

In 1984, Jesus joined the postal service as a letter carrier. Embodying the definition of dedication, hard work and service to his community, he was quickly promoted to Acting Supervisor, Supervisor of Mails and Delivery and Supervisor of Customer Service. Jesus was soon appointed to the position of Officer in Charge of Miami, Florida where he continued to serve South Floridians by utilizing his talents and abilities to fulfill and supercede his duties. His outstanding character and extraordinary effort enabled him to be the recipient of many prestigious awards, including VP Accomplishments for two years in a row, the UP Award, the Achievement Award, the Leadership Award and the Exceptional Individual Performance Award.

On May 14th, Jesus will be joined by his wife, Marlene, sons, Christopher and Michael, mother, Clara Fernandez and brother, Jose Galvez to be prestigiously installed as Postmaster. His commitment to excellence and extraordinary leadership will ensure his resounding success as Postmaster of Miami.

A TRIBUTE TO AILEEN DININO

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Aileen DiNino of North Miami, who has contributed so much to the cultural atmosphere of Florida in the 48 years which she has devoted to the teaching of music in our state. Mrs. DiNino, nearly 84, works with the junior string development of the Miami Youth Symphony, volunteers at public schools, has dozens of private students, and plays at her church, as well.

The future Mrs. DiNino first took piano lessons when she was seven years old. Her first music teachers were nuns in Wisconsin, where she grew up and sometimes accompanied her grandfather's fiddle in a duet. When she was 14, Aileen DiNino began studying the violin as she entered the convent. She taught children at an Indian reservation while still a teenager. At age 21, she took her vows as a nun with the Franciscans of Perpetual Adoration. She left the order decades later, upon the demise of the health of both her mother and herself.

In Minnesota, Mrs. DiNino met her future husband, Frank, who also was a musician and who had been a member of General Pershing's band. After marriage, the couple moved to South Florida, where Mrs. DiNino became a professor at Miami-Dade Community College.

Today, as ever, Mrs. DiNino encourages here proteges to give their very best to their music. It is indeed a privilege to recognize the dedication of such an outstanding Florida citizen as Mrs. Aileen DiNino.

ADDRESS OF MR. BENJAMIN MEED
AT THE NATIONAL CIVIC COM-
MEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF
REMEMBRANCE**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, April 13, Members of Congress joined with representatives of the diplomatic corps, executive and judicial branch officials, and Holocaust survivors and their families to commemorate the National Days of Remembrance in the Rotunda of the United States Capitol.

The ceremony coincided with the 60th anniversary of the voyage of the SS *St. Louis*, which set sail from Germany in April 1939, carrying more than 900 Jews away from Nazi terror. Denied entry to both Cuba and the United States, the *St. Louis* was forced to send its frightened passengers back to Europe just months before the onset of World War II. Many of them were eventually murdered in Auschwitz, Treblinka, and the other death camps of Hitler's Holocaust.

The tragic fate of the SS *St. Louis* remains a symbol to all of us who believe that society must never close its eyes to the victims of genocide, torture, and other gross violations of human rights and international law. Had the United States government not ignored the plight of the *St. Louis* refugees sixty years ago, had it substituted compassion and empathy for bureaucracy and rigidity, the children of that ship might still be alive today.

While we cannot rectify the wrongs of generations ago, we can apply the lesson of the *St. Louis* to the crises of today. In the Europe of 1999, innocent civilians are once again being deported, abused, raped and murdered. While the scale of Serbian atrocities in Kosovo does not approach the enormity of the Holocaust, the precedent that would be set by ignoring this ethnic cleansing cannot be tolerated. As Benjamin Meed, one of America's most prominent Holocaust survivors, noted at the Days of Remembrance ceremony: "All of us must remain vigilant—always aware, always on guard against those who are determined to destroy innocent life for no other reason than birthright."

Benjamin Meed was born in Warsaw, Poland. He worked as a slave laborer for the Nazis, survived in the Warsaw Ghetto, and was an active member of the Warsaw Underground with his wife, Vladka. A member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council since its inception, he chairs the Museum's Days of Remembrance Committee. He is President of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and a leader of a number of other organizations. Mr. Meed founded the Benjamin and Vladka Meed Registry of Jewish Holocaust Survivors permanently housed at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the full text of Mr. Meed's Days of Remembrance address to be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

REFUGEE DENIED: THE VOYAGE OF THE SS *St. Louis*

Members of the diplomatic corps, distinguished members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, members of the United States Holocaust Memorial

Council, distinguished guests, fellow survivors and dear friends,

Welcome to the 20th national Days of Remembrance commemoration.

For at least a decade, the magnificent flags that surround us now have been part of our annual observance here in the nation's Capitol. Every time the American flag and the flags of the United States Army that liberated the concentration camps are brought into this hall for this commemoration, a special pride as an American citizen sweeps over me, as I am sure it must for all Holocaust survivors. These pieces of red, white and blue cloth were the symbols of freedom and hope for those of us caught in the machinery of death. Discovery of the Nazi German concentration camps by the Allied armies began the process that restored our lives. Although we have many dates this month to remember, we recall with special gratitude the date of April 11, 1945, when American troops, in their march to end the war in Europe came across the Buchenwald concentration camp. We will always remain grateful to the soldiers for their bravery, kindness and generosity. We will always remember those young soldiers who sacrificed their lives to bring us to liberty.

Many revelations over the last half-century have unveiled the Holocaust as a story of massive destruction and loss. It has been shown to be a story of an apathetic world—a world full of callous dispassion and moral insensitivity with a few individual exceptions. But more, it has been shown to be a tale of victory—victory of the human spirit, of extraordinary courage and of remarkable endurance. It is the story of a life that flourished before the Shoah, that struggled throughout its darkest hours, and that ultimately prevailed.

After the Holocaust, as we rebuilt our lives, we also built a nation—the State of Israel. This was our answer to death and destruction—new life, both family and national life—and Remembrance. Minister Ben David, please convey to the people of Israel our solidarity with them as they, too. Remember on this Yom Hashoah.

Today, our thoughts turn back sixty years. On May 13, 1939, the SS *St. Louis* sailed from Hamburg bound for Cuba with more than nine hundred passengers, most of them Jews fleeing Nazism. For these passengers it was a desperate bid for freedom that was doomed before it began. Politics, profit and public opinion were permitted to overshadow morality, compassion and common sense. It is so painful now to realize that not only Cuba but our own beloved country closed their doors and hearts to these People of the Book who could see the lights of Miami from the decks of the ship but were not permitted to disembark. This group of over nine hundred could have been saved, but instead the voyage became a round-trip passage to hell for many of them. Less than three months after the *St. Louis* docked at Antwerp, the world was at war. And, in less than three years, the "Final Solution of the Jewish Problem" in Europe was fully operational.

Could this have happened today? Hopefully, not. But we—all of us—must be vigilant—ever mindful that once such a course of destruction of a people has been chartered, it can be followed again, and again, and again.

And what lessons did we derive from these horrible experiences? The most important lesson is obvious—it can happen again. The impossible is possible again. Ethnic cleansing, a genocide, is happening as I speak. It can happen to any one or to any group of people.

Should there be another Holocaust, it may be on a cosmic scale. How can we prevent it? All of us must remain vigilant—always aware, always on guard against those who

are determined to destroy innocent human life for no other reason than birthright.

There are some passengers of the unfortunate voyage of the SS *St. Louis* who are with us here today. Like most of us Holocaust survivors, they are in the winter of their lives. Even so, all of us look toward the future, because we believe that, in sharing our experiences—by bearing witness—there is hope of protecting other generations who might be abandoned and forgotten, robbed and murdered. The telling and retelling of the stories of the Holocaust with their profound lessons for humanity must become a mission for all humankind. In this way, future generations—particularly future generations of Americans—can Remember and use the power of this knowledge to protect people everywhere.

In these great halls of Congress, we see symbols of the ideals that this country represents. It was the collective rejection of these ideals by many nations that made the Holocaust possible. Today, let us promise to keep an ever-watchful eye for those who would deny and defy the principles of liberty, equality and justice and for those who would defy the rules of honorable and peaceful conduct between peoples and nations. Together, let us Remember. Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO MS. KATHERINE PHILP

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Katherine Philp from Woodland Hills School District. Katherine is the top winner of the 1999 18th Congressional District High School Art Competition, An Artistic Discovery.

Katherine's colored pencil still life entitled "Tissue and Fruit" was chosen from an outstanding collection of entries. Katherine is a young woman of considerable talent and is sure to have many successes in her future.

I look forward to seeing Katherine's artwork displayed along with the artwork of the other competition winners from across the country. I am pleased to be associated with Katherine's artistic talents.

Congratulations Katherine. I wish you all the best of luck in the future.

COMMENDING THE REVEREND JESSE L. JACKSON, SR., ON SECURING THE RELEASE OF U.S. SERVICEMEN FROM CAPTIVITY IN BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American leader, the Reverend Jesse Jackson, Sr. He is one of our true leaders in civil rights and the protection of freedom for those around the world. Having already proven his leadership during the Civil Rights movement, Reverend Jackson has been instrumental in gaining the release of prisoners in several instances. Most recently, he secured the release

of three U.S. servicemen, including S. Sgt. Steven Gonzales from my home state of Texas, captured in Macedonia and held captive in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. On April 29, 1999, Reverend Jackson led a delegation of religious and civic leaders to Yugoslavia to achieve this successful mission.

This is only one of many delegations Reverend Jackson has led to free prisoners from Iraq, Syria and Cuba over the past two decades. These missions have enhanced his reputation as a leader in humanitarian and civil rights efforts around the globe. Reverend Jackson's diplomacy and skill in negotiation serve as a model to all. I stand today to pay tribute to his accomplishments.

IN MEMORY OF BRANDON BURLSWORTH

HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, like residents all across my home state of Arkansas, I am deeply saddened by the recent loss of Brandon Burlsworth—a star football player for the Arkansas Razorbacks and a recent draft pick of the Indianapolis Colts. He was a role model for our state's youth, but he was also a role model for Arkansans of all ages.

Brandon was an inspiration in more than his athletic prowess. His achievements on the football field were great—but they were dwarfed by his achievements of personal character. His short life will long stand in Arkansas legend as a shining example of dedication, perseverance, commitment, faith and strength.

Consider the path that took Brandon to the NFL. In high school, he was not the biggest or the fastest guy on the team. But even then, he stood out because of his commitment. When he graduated from high school, he had offers for scholarships to some good schools, but they were smaller schools and, unfortunately, none of them were the University of Arkansas. Brandon was set on being a Razorback, and he would settle for nothing less.

Rather than give up his dream, Brandon traveled to Fayetteville and pursued his dream without a net, walking on to the Razorback field without any guarantees, without any scholarship. As his teammates and coaches can attest, he worked as hard as—if not harder—than anyone else on the team. He arrived in the weight room early and stayed late—always striving, always working, always focused. And that work paid off.

Through such commitment, Brandon not only secured himself a spot on the team; by the time he graduated from the university, he was named an All-American. His teammates so respected Brandon, they elected him team captain. And from this hard road, Brandon reached the very top, having been recently drafted by the Colts to play as a professional. And we all know that he would have succeeded here, as he had done throughout his life.

But it is important to point out that football did not dominate Brandon's life, that his achievements went much further than that. He was the first player in Razorback history to get an advanced degree before playing his last game—having applied the same dedication

and commitment from the football field to the classroom. And Brandon's commitment to his family and his faith are equally well known.

So when we honor Brandon Burlsworth, let us honor the full man, the full inspiration that he was to our state. While we applaud his commitment to football, we applaud even more his commitment to life. A native son that will be missed, but a role model that will live on in Arkansas memory.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. JOAN HERTZENSON BOTUCK, EDITOR/LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR CLERK, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a very special member of the staff of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Joan Hertzenson Botuck, and to express on behalf of the Committee, our gratitude to Joan for her hard work, great friendship and dedication to preserving an exact historical record of the Committee's activities. Joan's attention to detail has been a God-send to the Committee for many years.

A Michigan native, Joan earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Speech and English from Wayne University in Detroit, her Masters in Education from the University of Virginia, and a Masters in Library Science from Catholic University. Before joining the Committee staff in 1979, she worked for a time teaching at Central High School in Detroit, and counseling at the Psychological Testing Center in Virginia and at the office of Washington Opportunities for Women in D.C. And of utmost importance during these years, Joan and her husband, Henry, raised three lovely daughters: Ruth, Debra and Linda, and are now proud grandparents six times over.

Joan has served on the committee—and its predecessor, the Committee on Public Works and Transportation—for more than 20 years. When the Committee consolidated and computerized our editing and legislative calendar operations, Joan was appointed to oversee that office and did an excellent job. As the committee's editor, she published a daily summary of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, periodic legislative status reports, and an annual publication of the Committee Legislative Calendar. She is also very skilled in retrieving computerized legislative information which was an outstanding research aid to me and the committee staff in carrying out our own legislative responsibilities. Joan has always been a respected professional working in a completely bipartisan manner—having served under for both Democratic and Republican chairmen with unwavering commitment and dedication.

The entire experience of being a Member of Congress and a part of "the Hill" community, has been enhanced for me in large part due to the quality of staff such as Joan Botuck.

Many of you in the Rayburn Building may recognize Joan as an exercise enthusiast. Each lunch hour she dons her sweats and tennis shoes and walks the Rayburn corridors—at a very fast pace, I have observed—and weather permitting, occasionally ventures